

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,
OUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 17th August, 1872.

POLITICAL (DOMESTIC).

[THE *Akhbár-i-Alam*, of the 1st August, publishes a rejoinder (written by Moonshee Luchmee Narain, a gentleman of Bareilly) to the memorial submitted by the Europeans and East Indians of the several presidencies to the Secretary of State for India, protesting against His Grace's despatches to the Government of India, No. 84, dated 10th March, 1870, and No. 451, dated 6th December, 1871, to the effect that the Uncovenanted Service should be principally reserved for the Natives of the country; that Natives should be more generally appointed to offices the duties of which they are competent to perform, and that Europeans should only be appointed to the higher branches of the service, Covenanted or Uncovenanted, provided their first nomination takes place in England. The writer begins by expressing his regret that, while Europeans have been convening committees in different places, in order to adopt measures for securing a cancelment of the ruling and depriving Hindoostanees of a concession which is justly their due, and which Her Majesty's Government has at last been pleased to yield to them, the latter whose interests are closely concerned in the schemes, should give themselves up to indifference, without taking notice of what is going on around

them; and by remarking that, had they exerted themselves in ensuring the enforcement of the ruling with as much vigour as was displayed by them in opposing the taxation scheme by memorializing parliament, good results were sure to have followed. Unfortunately, they have been silent on this important occasion, and none of the societies and associations existing in the different parts of India have directed their attention to the subject, the result of which, it is feared, will be that Europeans and Anglo-Indians will carry the day, and that Natives will remain in the obscure position to which they have hitherto been doomed.

After these preliminary remarks, the writer goes on to prove the necessity of enforcing the ruling in question by showing that, under the existing arrangements, Natives have only a small share of appointments in every department of the public service, and are almost excluded from the higher offices which are held principally by Europeans—a course the injustice of which cannot be over-rated. It is remarked that not only are such offices shared by Europeans, who have passed the Civil Service Examination, but those which remain—such as Deputy Commissionerships, and other higher offices in the different branches of the service—are reserved exclusively for Europeans and Eurasians who pass no such examination, Natives not being eligible to them. They can seldom rise above Deputy Collectorships and Sudder Suddoorships of the 2nd grade, and, to crown this act of injustice, even the ministerial appointments in all public offices are filled chiefly by Europeans and East Indians—a fact which would be fully borne out if Government were to call for a list of all ministerial officers, from head assistants downwards to inferior clerks of all the English offices. Almost three-fourths of the ministerial officers are Europeans or Eurasians, as though the higher English education Natives receive in colleges did not even qualify them for clerkships and writerships. The writer ascribes this unjust proceeding to the partiality and prejudice of European officers, who, it is asserted, prefer, as

much as possible, persons of their own nation to Hindoostanees in filling up the appointments in their gift. With the exception of the Governor-General and the Governors of Provinces, all European officers look upon India as a rich mine from which they think they should draw as much wealth as they can, affording all opportunities in their power to their fellow-brethren of the same country and religion with themselves to do likewise.

The writer proceeds to discuss the injustice and impolicy of such a proceeding. It is observed that the principle of filling up the posts in the public service by Europeans was adopted by Government in the infancy of its rule in India, when Natives knowing English could not be found. This want has now more than been supplied. Schools and colleges have been established at a considerable cost to the State for imparting education of the higher standard to the Natives, which send up a large number of able and qualified young men competent for the discharge of the duties of the highest offices under the Government, and it is certainly a great pity that these should be deprived of such offices at a time when they are most fit for being invested with them.

Apart from this fact, it is politically wise and prudent that as the people grow enlightened and improve in knowledge, their rights and prerogatives should increase, and they should share more and more in the government of the country. This principle was observed in England and France, and it is to it that the prosperity of those empires is chiefly indebted. Since the time of William III. such amendments and reforms have been made in the constitution of England that at first sight it is difficult to discover that the principles now followed by the Government are improved forms of the old. Such unfortunately is far from being the case in India, where, notwithstanding that the people have been continually advancing in civilization, the Government still acts on the policy which was adopted by it more than a century ago, instead of moving onward and removing everything which obstructs the

progress of liberal principles. The Natives of the country are still debarred from a fair share in the government of the country, and all the higher offices in every department of administration are open exclusively to Europeans. It may all be very well to say that the Civil Service is open for the competition of Hindoostanees, and a few of the Bengalees even now hold the higher offices in it, and that one of the Judges of the High Court at Calcutta has always been a Native ; but these rare exceptions do not affect the main question, and, instead of weakening the force of the general complaint, serve only to show it in a stronger light. If among a number of Judges one is a Native, this surely cannot add much to the glory of the Indian nation. It is laid down in the Imperial mandate that of the total number of Judges one-third shall be European Barristers-at-law, and one-third Civil Servants. If, then, the remaining one-third were selected from amongst Native pleaders and Sudder Sudoors, Hindoostanees would have no cause for complaint. Some might object to this by saying that Native pleaders are not qualified for judgeships ; but this is a great mistake, as is fully borne out by the evidence of high authorities, such as Sir Barnes Peacock and Sir Walter Morgan, late Chief Justices of the High Court of Bengal and the North-Western Provinces, who confessed that Native pleaders of the High Court were in no way inferior to English barristers. Such being the case, there seems to be no reason why in the High Courts of the other presidencies there should not be a Native Judge, as in that of Bengal. Is it because the Native Judge in the Bengal High Court displayed proofs of superior ability and conscientiousness in the discharge of the duties of his office, so as even to surpass English Judges, that Government is ashamed to appoint a Native Judge in other presidencies ?

All these facts fully concur in proving that hitherto great injustice has been done to Natives in regard to the conferment of the higher offices, and that, unless the promises set forth in the despatches of Her Majesty's Secretary of State above

referred to are fulfilled, unless the Indian Civil Service is thrown open for the competition of Natives, and the existing Civil Service Rules are revised and remodelled, so that the Civil Service Examination of the Hindoostanees may be held in India, and the difficulties and obstacles which now stand in their way be removed, and they have opportunities and facilities afforded to them for competing for it, such as Europeans enjoy, and unless the power of nominating Europeans to offices in the public service is vested exclusively in the authorities in England, there can be no hope that Natives will rise to preferments in the public service, however much the Governor-General and the Secretary of State may express their regret in their despatches. The writer concludes by advising his countrymen to submit memorials embodying these facts to Parliament.

The *Núr-ul-Absar*, of the same date, devotes a leader to the same subject. The writer begins by referring to the draft of furlough rules for uncovenanted servants, submitted by the Government of India to the Home Government for sanction, and which was twice or thrice rejected by the latter, with the remark that the principle which Her Majesty's Government has kept steadily in view throughout the discussion of these furlough rules is that, except under special circumstances, or pressing necessity, the uncovenanted service should be reserved exclusively for the Natives of the country; that it should be regarded as a general principle not hereafter to be departed from that all Europeans appointed in India to offices which could be fitly held by Natives should receive no greater advantages of any kind than would be enjoyed by Natives holding such posts or offices. This principle of the Government is based on full justice, and in laying it down Government has certainly paid due regard to the rights of the Natives. The Hindoos were the original rulers and masters of India, and have, therefore, the foremost claims to consideration, and the greatest right to reap benefit from the income of the country. Next to them came the Musalmans, till the English took the government of

the country from their hands ; and, consequently, next to the Hindoos they, too, have a prior claim to benefit by the Indian revenues. To this it might be objected that, as conquerors of India, who came from a distant land the English have a sole right to share in the government of the country, and enjoy its income and the other advantages it affords, just as the Musalmans did in the time of the Mahomedan rulers, and such indeed is the view of the question taken by the Europeans and Eurasians of this country, and it is on grounds such as these that they have set forth loud complaints against the ruling under discussion in their memorials to the Home Government ; but this principle, it will be remarked, notwithstanding that it was acted up to by the Musalman emperors (though among them even there were some who attached little weight to it), who have ever been stigmatized for their selfish views, is certainly opposed to the liberal policy pursued by the English Government, were it to follow in the wake of the ancient sovereigns, and adopt their narrow principles, there would remain no distinction between it and other Governments, who have maintained the principle of "might is right," and the broad views of justice and equity, of which it so much boasts, and for which it has shone conspicuous above the latter, would fall to the ground. It may look very well in the Uncovenanted Europeans and Eurasians, who care solely for their employment and their selfish ends, without having any regard to political expediencies, to set forth complaints against the liberal policy in question ; but surely Government, who wish to keep permanent possession over the country, ought not to deviate from it, were it only on political considerations. No sovereign, however powerful he may be, can hope to govern a country in peace until he allows the people under his sway their due rights and privileges, so that they may live happy and contented under his rule. For this reason, Her Majesty's Government has thought it fit to be content with allowing only a certain share of the advantages of its Indian sovereignty to its nation, and reserve the rest for the Natives of the country.

The higher offices have been set apart exclusively for European Civil servants, Natives having access to them only on certain conditions, while the appointments next to them, as well as ministerial offices, have been reserved especially for the Natives. This is even-handed justice, and if such a course is actually followed, and the necessary measures are adopted, besides, for improving the state of India in manufactures, all cause of complaint will cease to exist.

The writer goes on to prove the necessity of giving effect to the rule in question, by showing that, under the existing arrangements, Europeans possess the monopoly of the appointments in every department of the service. Taking the Customs Department for an example, in which the appointment of able, experienced, and honest persons is necessary, it will be observed that, notwithstanding that Hindoostanees of respectable families fulfil these requirements in a better degree than uncovenanted Anglo-Indians of the higher class, undue preference is given to the latter; for, while 64 of the officers now employed in it, from Collectors downwards to Assistant Patrols, are Europeans and Eurasians, only six are Natives; and this, too, in order that their services may be available for places where Europeans may decline to go on considerations of climate. That the same is the case in the police, and in fact in all other departments, may be judged from the fact that, with the exception of the uncovenanted Europeans and Eurasians who follow the profession of trade, the rest are almost all employed in the ministerial appointments in all English offices, for which no special examination is prescribed.

By the above remark the writer will not be understood to mean that uncovenanted Europeans and East Indians are to be entirely excluded from the service. On the contrary, both in regard to their abilities and for the sake of political expediency, he would wish that Government should not only provide for their support, but should give every encouragement to increase their numbers in the country. What he means is,

that all offices in the Civil branch of the service should be reserved principally for Natives, while those in the Military Department should be set apart for Europeans. He would also recommend that a special department should be established in India for training the people in the agricultural and mechanical arts, and Europeans versed in those arts should be appointed in each district for teaching them. This will open a new field for the employment of Europeans, while it will supply a want which is sadly felt in the country.]

The *Roznámcha*, of the 2nd August, invites the attention of the authorities to the cruelties inflicted by fowlers in all cities on birds, and suggests that the order passed by the Deputy Commissioner and the Police Superintendent of Lucknow to the Police of that district last year, prohibiting fowlers, on pain, if they fail to do so, of being liable to punishment under Section 34 of Act V. of 1861, from tormenting birds by tying their feet and hanging them upside down, or in other ways, and directing that they should be brought to markets in cages, should be passed in all districts.

[The *Akhbār-i-Anjuman-i-Panjāb*, of the same date, again points out the need of giving the Natives of India a full share in the Council of the Governor-General for making laws and regulations. As has so often been noticed in the *Selections*, it is remarked that at present the participation of Hindoostanees in the Council is simply for form's sake, there being only one or two Hindoostanee members in it—and these, too, the Chiefs of Native States who can by no means represent the whole of the Indian community. In the writer's opinion, at least two Natives for each presidency, who may be fitted by their learning and experience in the affairs of the country, as well as by their respectability for the distinction, should form part of the Council. The kind of persons to be chosen should be such as these :—From the Bengal Presidency, the Native Judge of the High Court, Native Civilians, and Barristers-at-Law, and other officers holding important offices under the

Government, each of whom should fill the office of member by turns; from the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, officers of a similar standing and position; and from the North-Western Provinces, the Punjab, and Oudh, such officers as may be suited for the office, both in regard to their high education and reputation, and their respectability and popularity among the Indian community.

Another important point, to which the writer would also invite the attention of the Indian Legislative Council, is the desirability of affording the people, or the class of people, whom an act or regulation may concern, full opportunities of expressing their opinions on it before enforcing it. Under the existing arrangements, the Bills proposed by the Council are published only in the *Government Gazettes*, which are inaccessible to the public generally, and are expressed, besides, in a language which is scarcely intelligible to all, and for this reason the people are unable to give their opinion on it. The editor thinks that the defect ought to be removed by publishing the drift of the Bills in plain and easy Urdu, and circulating it among the people.

The attention of Government is invited to these suggestions (for an exhaustive article on this subject, see pp. 163-6 of the *Selections* for the week ending 15th April, 1871). □

The *Koh-i-Nūr*, of the 3rd August, publishes an anonymous letter preferring complaints of the bad habit to which the officers intrusted with the registration of deeds and documents in the Punjab are said to be addicted of leaving the duty entirely in the hands of their mohurrirs. These officials abuse the power thus vested in them by collecting double the proper registration-fee, in addition to the *nazrána*, before making over the deeds to their owners, and, in order to prevent the unfair proceeding from being detected, never give a receipt for the fee received. Worse still, even in

cases where such a receipt is given, the registrars take no notice of complaints of the extortion.

The writer remarks that such conduct on the part of the mofussil registrars is unlawful and at variance with the directions laid down by the Registrar-General of Assurances, according to which they are bound personally to register deeds, receive the registration fee, and furnish a receipt for the same, and to see that they are delivered to the owners in their presence the next day after submission, after completion of the usual processes; and he warns the officers against it.

A Peshawur correspondent of the same paper invites attention to a serious abuse said to have been prevalent in that district for a long time, *viz.*, the predominance of false witnesses. Expert men can be procured in numbers to give false evidence in any case on the payment of one rupee or eight annas a-piece, and what is worse, there are many families who reciprocate the vicious office, each giving false evidence for the other whenever occasion requires. If, for instance, A gives witness in B's case, he claims in return a similar service from B's whole family.

The writer wonders that though the authorities are aware of the fact, steps are not taken by them for putting a stop to the abuse, which, it is remarked, is commonly practised in these days in cases relating to landed property, &c., lodged in the Settlement Department.

Another correspondent of the same paper, writing from Umritsur, states that bad characters abound in these days in Bazaar Himmud Singh, Namak Mundee, Kutra Karam Singh, and other places in the city, and points out the necessity of keeping them under strict surveillance, by directing the police to prepare a list of them, and exact a security from each.

The correspondent also points out the need of repairing the flooring of the bazaars, which is broken in many places, thereby causing great inconvenience to the people.

The *Akhbār-i-Anjuman-i-Hind*, of the same date, discusses the suits lodged by Moonsshee Nawal Kishore against the *Lucknow Times Press*, and in which the Anjuman-i-Hind Society has been set down as one of the defendants—a proceeding which in the Society's opinion is extremely unjust and unjustifiable. To prove this the history connected with the *Lucknow Times* is traced from the beginning, so far as its connection with the Society is concerned, and noticed briefly as follows:—

The *Lucknow Times Press* was originally purchased from its proprietors by the late Maharaja Sir Man Singh, K.C.S.I., President of the *Anjuman-i-Hind*, who had to undergo a personal loss of thousands of rupees in the transaction. In the lifetime of the Maharaja the Society had promised to continue paying a monthly sum of Rs. 300 to the press, on the condition that the appointment and dismissal of its editor were left in its own hands, as is fully borne out by the fact that during the whole of the time Moonsshee Nawal Kishore remained in charge of the press, and beyond that sum not a single farthing was ever paid by the Society. On the transfer of the press to Mirza Abbas Beg, the Society rigidly adhered to the same course, and from time to time laid down in its proceedings that beyond the payment of Rs. 300 per mensem it had nothing whatever to do with the profits or losses of the press, and this statement was supported by the Mirza himself in his writings at different times.

All these facts concur in proving that there was no reason why, in the suits lodged in court against the Mirza by Moonsshee Nawal Kishore, the Anjuman should have been set down as a defendant.

Having thus shown that the Anjuman has not and never had any real connection with the *Lucknow Times Press*,

the writer goes on to examine the suits brought by Moonshee Nawal Kishore against the Mirza, one after another, as follows :—

(a) Since assuming the charge of the press, the Mirza engaged in a private trade, and agreed to divide the profits in the proportion of seven annas in the rupee to Moonshee Nawal Kishore in return for the balance owing to the latter. This share was never paid, and the Moonshee, therefore, lodged a suit for the recovery of the amount due, on which the Mirza submitted a petition to the court stating that he had engaged in the trade in his capacity as Secretary to the Anjuman, and the Society was assumed to be a joint defendant. The case is now before the court for a review of judgment.

(b) The Mirza purchased a press from Moonshee Nawal Kishore for Rs. 1,800, and, failing to pay the money, was sued for the same, on which, as in suit (a), he stated in his deposition that the purchase was made by him in his capacity as Secretary of the Anjuman. The court, without attending to the pleas urged by the Society, decreed the suit against it.

(c) After taking charge of the *Lucknow Times Press* from Moonshee Nawal Kishore on the 25th December, the Mirza, in consequence of the ill-provided state of the press, had three numbers of the paper issued from the Moonshee's press. The latter sued for the recovery of the cost (Rs. 375), at which the Mirza again stated in his deposition that he had conducted the *Lucknow Times* as Secretary to the *Anjuman*. The court decreed this suit, too, against the *Anjuman*.

The writer objects to the decisions of the court (1) because, as has been shown in detail above, the *Anjuman* has nothing whatever to do with the *Lucknow Times Press*, a statement which is further upheld by the fact that the income of the *Lucknow Times* was never paid into the Society's treasury, nor credited to its account; (2) because the *Anjuman* having paid up the monthly sum of Rs. 300 ever since the date the Mirza assumed charge of the press, could not be answerable for its

liabilities; (3) because the Secretary of the *Anjuman* enjoys no power to embark in any proceeding or spend a single farthing without the approval and sanction of a special committee with which the management of the *Anjuman*, and the regulation of its expenses entirely rest, so that, even assuming the Mirza to have conducted the *Lucknow Times* in his capacity as Secretary of the *Anjuman* the proceeding could not be legitimate.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudhá*, of the same date, in its columns of local news, repeats complaints of the filthy and disgraceful state of the streets and lanes of the city (Benares), and again invites the attention of the municipality to the need of removing the abuse. The writer is surprised to find that even the roads leading to the residence of the Maharajah of Vizianagram are in a bad state. The municipality is blamed for attending solely to the repair and cleanliness of the streets leading to the Government offices or frequented by European officers, and neglecting all the rest.

The *Benares Akhbár*, of the 8th August, prefers a similar complaint. It is stated that the flooring of the lanes is broken in numerous places, and uneven in some, in consequence of which the people have to suffer great inconvenience. The municipality is asked to direct its attention to the defect.

Thefts are said to be very prevalent, some cases occurring every week. Thieves come into the city from abroad, but no steps are taken for arresting them.

The *Kárnámah*, of the 5th August, in continuation of its article mentioning the loss of thirty *misl*s from the office of Baboo Narain Dass, Extra Assistant Commissioner of Lucknow, noticed at p. 400, para. 4, of the *Selections* for the week ending 1st August, reports that fifteen more *misl*s have been stolen from the same office. The Deputy Commissioner has issued strict injunctions to the officials concerned to trace out the theft, but to no effect.

The same paper states, on the authority of the *Roznámcha*, that a party of *budmashes* in Lucknow, by inducing a poor man to prefer a petition to the court for cutting down certain trees, representing them to be his own property, and by standing as witnesses in verifying the claim, had an order issued from the court permitting them to cut down the trees. The real owner, on becoming aware of this, reported the fact to the Police, when he was told that he should lodge a plaint in the civil court. But before the suit could be lodged, the wood had been sold, and the price realized by the *budmashes*.

Another case of this kind happened in Mouzah Rooppore Khudra in the Lucknow Tehseel, the particulars being these :— One Wilayat Ali took advantage of the death of a fakeer, named Ghubbara Shah, to bring a suit in the Criminal Court for permission to cut down the trees in his *tukya*, and, with the aid of the same bad characters who had stood witnesses in the aforesaid case, obtained an order directing the Police to allow them to cut down the trees. When the zemindar came to know of this, he sent his agent to prohibit the false claimants from cutting down the trees, but was told by the Police that if he had any claim to the property he should refer to the court.

The editor of the *Kárnámah* remarks, that it is by tricks such as these that persons often come by estates to which they have no right, and thinks that steps should be taken by the authorities for putting a stop to the grievance.

The *Márwár Gazette*, of the same date, referring to the case of the two Europeans at a Railway-station in Madras who, under the influence of wine, engaged in a quarrel with one another, the result of which was that one of them died, points out the need of laying down a special Act for checking the mischievous practice of drinking. In the absence of such a ruling, crimes of the worst type are often committed in a state of intoxication, without the offenders being called to account or punished nay, sober persons boldly perpetrate crimes under the assur-

ance of obtaining their acquittal on the plea of drunkenness. In the editor's opinion, if no better plan can be thought of, an order might be passed with advantage, making it a crime in any one to drink during the day time, and a suitable reward offered for writing an essay on drinking and its bad consequences, and the means for checking it. (For a more exhaustive article on this subject, see pp. 203-4 of the *Selections* for the week ending 6th May, 1871.)

The *Jalwa-i-Túr*, of the 8th August, in connection with the complaint of extortions said to be practised on the people of Kerana by the collectors of the chowkeedaree-tax (*vide* p. 370, paras. 1 and 2 of the *Selections* for the week ending 24th July last), further invites the attention of the Magistrate of Moozuffernuggur to the unfair policy on the part of the *punches*, intrusted with the assessment of the tax, of having exempted their own houses from payment and for the truth of this statement refers the officer to the tax-register, on examining which it will appear that the number of houses set down therein does not exceed 3,000, although there are nearly 6,000 houses in the town. The editor thinks the *Bukhshee* ought to be called to account for the discrepancy, and would further suggest that inquiries into the whole affair might, with advantage, be conducted through the Tehseeldar of Budhana in conjunction with himself.

It is also stated that in Mouzah Moe some one inflicted a severe wound on a zemindar's head with a hoe. The editor doubts whether the case came to the Magistrate's notice, and in case it has not, asks him to make inquiries into it, remarking that, if cases of this kind are concealed, it will become impossible for the people to obtain redress in future.

The *Vidyá Vilás*, of the same date, complains that house-tax is being levied in Umritsur with great severity. Houses bringing a rent of two annas per month are so assessed as if their rent were one rupee.

The *Urdu Akhbár*, of the same date, has a long communicated article on thefts. The prevalence of the crime under the English rule, in spite of excellent police arrangements kept up by it at a heavy cost to the State, is contrasted with its unfrequency in the time of the ancient sovereigns, when no such arrangements existed, and is ascribed to the mild punishments inflicted on offenders by the English Government. In former times the crime was visited with severe penalties. Men guilty of it were punished by the mutilation of their persons, or the infliction of excruciating tortures; and the inhabitants of the places where criminal cases of any kind happened were held responsible to make good the losses or injuries sustained in them—measures which were efficacious in putting a stop to crime. The writer doubts not that if the latter course be adopted by Government, care being taken besides to appoint none but honest and well-born persons in the Police Department, an effective check would be put to thefts and robberies.

The *Lauh-i-Mahfúz*, of the 9th August, in its column of local news, draws the attention of the municipality of the city (Moradabad) to the need of metalling the *kutchá* road leading from Chowkee Seedhee Husun to Mohulla Kusroul, which is said to remain full of ruts and slime, especially on account of the water of the whole city flowing in that direction, and thereby to cause great inconvenience to the people passing on it.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the same date, states, on the authority of a correspondent at Ghazeepore, that the band of Persian immigrants who lately entered that district and committed great outrages there—(for particulars see p. 15, para. 1, of the *Selections* for the week ending 13th January last)—and had then proceeded towards the east, after a short sojourn in Calcutta, marched back, and in the course of the journey practised great oppressions on the shopkeepers of Shahabad, in the Province of Behar, in consequence of which the Magis-

trate of that district drove them from his jurisdiction towards Ghazeepore, at the same time informing the Magistrate there of the fact, and warning him against their malpractices. The vagabonds passed on, and on reaching Koondlesur, in Pergunnah Mahomedabad, purchased provisions from the shopkeepers of the place, but on being asked to pay the price, said that payment had already been made. This led to a fierce quarrel between the two parties, in which seven shopkeepers were wounded, one of whom died on the spot, the rest being carried to the hospital. Of the Afghans only three were wounded. The culprits were despatched to the Magistrate's Court, and the case is under consideration.

The editor remarks that, as the immigrants are extremely turbulent, and complaints of their oppressive behaviour have been frequently heard, Government would do well to expel them from its dominions under the escort of an efficient police guard.

A correspondent of the *Benares Akhbār*, of the 15th August, also mentions the above case, as well as the judgment passed in it, the particulars of which are these:—The offenders were at first released from custody on furnishing a bail for Rs. 1,000 pending the decision of the case, and were acquitted on the 5th August, in consequence of the charge not being proved against them, but were made to pay Rs. 50 to the wife of the shopkeeper who was killed in the affray, the amount of security having been of course refunded.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the 9th August, refers to the punishment inflicted by the Cantonment Magistrate of Umballa on certain cowherds, on account of their being in the habit of feeding their cows and buffaloes with the dung of horses in order to increase the supply of milk, one of whom was sentenced to a fine of Rs. 30, and several of the others to one of Rs. 9 each; and suggests that, as the abuse is common in most places, and is extremely injurious in a sanitary point of view, the milk produced by unwholesome food of the kind

being injurious in its effects, it would be well if similar steps were adopted in other places for putting a check to it.

The same paper notices the fancy taken by Wajid Ali Shah, the ex-Nawab of Oudh, to collect twenty-thousand serpents of all species, and the fact of his having appointed agents on a salary of Rs. 100 per mensem, and deputed them to different places for that purpose, and one or two baskets full of living serpents being daily sent to him by the latter by rail.

The editor remarks that, according to some, the Nawab's object in collecting serpents at a considerable expense is that by these means he may come to the possession of the precious jewel (mun) which some serpents are said to possess, and, according to some, to obtain a particular kind of serpent by whose means, it is said, a person can fly in the air; while others are of opinion that the Nawab simply desires to fit up an enclosure of serpents for purposes of amusement, just as he has filled up an aviary. Be this what it may, the act, in the editor's opinion, is fraught with danger. At least, it is feared, that the baskets full of snakes might prove to be the cause of the death of some of the railway *employés*, and the writer is therefore of opinion that Government should expostulate with the Nawab on his conduct.

The *Shams-ul-Akhbár*, of the same date, referring to the case of Moulvie Liakat Ali, a famous rebel of 1857, considers the sentence of transportation for life passed on him by the court not only to be just, but rather mild. The crime of which the Moulvie had been guilty was of such a serious nature that, had he been arrested at the time of the mutiny, he would have undoubtedly been blown from a gun, and accordingly, when he was captured lately, it was the universal belief that he would be doomed to the extreme penalty of the law.

The *Agra Akhbár*, of the 10th August, in its column of local news, notices the prevalence of dengue fever in the city. The

disease is said to be most prevalent in Mohulla Gokulpooora, which is attributed to two causes, *viz.*, (1) the uncleanly state in which the mohulla remains in consequence of being inhabited by cowherds, whose houses, for obvious reasons, remain extremely filthy and foul, chiefly in the rainy season; and (2) the close proximity of pits of filth.

The attention of the municipality is invited to the abuses, and the more so because of the boarding-house attached to the Government College being situated in the vicinity of the mohulla, and having on that account become equally unhealthy. As many as forty boys, together with the servants and attendants, are confined to the sick bed.

The *Núr-ul-Anwár*, of the same date, notices a serious case of theft in the postal department. The particulars are these:—On the 18th July, a banghy parcel containing pieces of silk cloth was received from Calcutta at the Cawnpore Post-office for transmission to Lucknow. The head clerk of the banghy department made it over to Baboo Balik Ram, taking a receipt, and the latter, after weighing it and obtaining a receipt, made it over to the post-office peon, as usual, for delivery at the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway-station at Cawnpore, which he did, bringing back a receipt. On its reaching Lucknow, and being opened by the owner, the latter found the contents to be bricks instead of silk cloth.

Another parcel of the same kind, which was posted on the day preceding, was tampered with in a similar way, the contents having been abstracted, and bricks of an equal weight substituted in their place.

Inquiries were made, but the crime could not be proved against any one.

POLITICAL (FOREIGN).

The *Núr-ul-Absár*, of the 1st August, notices the proposal of the Maharaja of Gwalior to introduce a new canal into his territory, which will extend over a circuit of 110 miles. The writer remarks that though the project is a proof of the

Maharajah's high-mindedness, yet if he has adopted it simply in imitation of the English Government, without weighing the consequences and without making a comparative estimate of the expenditure which will be incurred in its execution, and the income it will bring, he has surely made a great mistake. The writer doubts if the Ganges Canal has brought any profit to the English Government, and remarks that the zemindars through whose lands it passes are heard to complain that irrigation by canal-water injures the capabilities of the soil. After this experience the Maharajah would have done well to lay out his money on objects of greater importance instead of spending it in a project of the kind.

The *Kavi Vachan Sudhā*, of the 3rd August, learns from a correspondent at Rampore (Rohilkhund) that the complaint noticed by it on a former occasion (*vide* p. 6, para. 3, of the *Selections* for the week ending 6th January last,) as to the prohibition against the sounding of the *Sunkh* (the conch blown by the Hindoos at the time of worshipping their deities) in the Hindoo temples in the State still prevails. The grievance is especially prevalent in the villages ceded to the State by the English Government, and is felt extremely painful by the people.

The editor remarks that this intolerant act is sure to bring disgrace and ruin on the state, and wonders why Government does not interfere in the matter and redeem the people who were once under its own protection from the serious grievance.

The *Hindee Mārwar Gazette*, of the 5th August, gives an account of the civil dispute prevailing in Tehree (Bundelkhund), consequent on the Jagheerdar of Palehda having revolted against the Rajah of the State, a youth of 20, and set his power at defiance. The particulars are stated to be these :—The jagheerdar having in vain represented his grievances to the Political Agent made an appeal to arms. The Rajah sent a detachment of his forces with six pieces of

cannon, to oppose him, and a battle took place, which ended in the defeat of the royal troops, and the capture of six guns by the enemy. This unhappy result is ascribed to the bad state of the Rajah's army, which is thus described by a Bundela Chief:—

“The soldiers of the army receive Rs. 3 a month of the *kutchā* coin, and even this paltry pay is not distributed regularly, arrears for a year being due at present. The musket balls are kept tied in a piece of cloth, while the soldiers fasten their shoes on their feet by means of a string. Quite different is the case with the jagheerdar's army, which musters 5,000 strong. To this it was owing that in the battle which recently took place the Rajah lost 100 men, and the Jagheerdar only a few.”

A correspondent of the *Dabdaba-i-Sikandarī*, of the same date, writing from Odeypore, notices the communication of the Political Agent of Mewar to the Maharana to the effect that, as robberies and dacoities are very frequent in the estates of the jagheerdars, and no steps are taken by the latter for putting a stop to them, orders should be issued to them that, unless they take effective measures for checking the crime by increasing the number of their forces, the Government of Mewar will be under the necessity of taking the management of the State into its own hands. This order has caused much anxiety to the jagheerdars, and this for the following reason:—

The Baorees living in the *Khalisa* villages are the chief authors of the crime, and in consequence of the Government showing undue partiality to them, it is difficult to trace and arrest the offenders. The only course left to the Jagheerdars for protecting their subjects from their oppressions is by settling persons of their own tribe in their estates, and it is for this reason that, notwithstanding repeated injunctions, the jagheerdars do not turn out the people from their *ilāqas*.

The correspondent also takes this occasion to notice the great partiality said to be shown by the Maharana to the people under his direct sway, as compared with those living under the management of the jagheerdars—a proceeding which is condemned as extremely unjust.

The *Pattiala Akhbār*, of the same date, learns from a correspondent that since the date of his appointment, the Assistant Political Agent posted at Mulier Kotla has not decided a single case, which is ascribed to two reasons, viz., (1) that he has not till now been invested with the power of hearing cases; and (2) that he is generally absent from the scene of his duties, now going to Lodhiana, and now to other places.

The editor expresses surprise at both these statements, and remarks that, in case of their being true, the Punjab Government ought to take serious notice of the matter.

A Bulrampore correspondent of the *Nūr-ul-Anwār*, of the 10th August, speaks in high terms of the management of the handsome hospital built by the Maharajah of that State at Lucknow. It is remarked that the hospital has been opened since the last three months, and is under the control of Baboo Ishan Chandra and Noor Qasim Ali, his Assistant. About 150 patients, including Hindoos, Musalmans, and European soldiers, are now under treatment, who live in separate barracks built in connection with the hospital. Separate cooks have been appointed for persons of different castes, and the inmates are provided with food as well as medicine gratis. Besides the inmates, a large number of patients daily attend the hospital to receive medicines.

COMMERCIAL.

The *Koh-i-Nūr*, of the 3rd August, republishes from the *Punjab Government Gazette* the correspondence which passed between that Government and the Consulting Engineer to the Government of India for Railways in the Punjab on the subject of the complaint noticed in the *Koh-i-Nūr* of the 15th June last, on the authority of a correspondent, as to the pas-

passengers of the 4 P. M. down-train, which started from Lahore on the 8th June, having been kept locked up in the carriages the whole night at the Okarah station, in consequence of the train having suffered an accident. For particulars see pp. 345-6, under the heading "Commercial," of the *Selections* for the week ending 8th July last. The drift of the correspondence is that the statement made by the *Koh-i-Núr* as to the passengers having been kept locked up the whole of the time has no foundation.

The editor remarks that, though these enquiries should have shown the complaint to be ungrounded, they have at least served an important end; (1) in convincing the people that the Punjab Government is zealously attentive to the welfare of the people under its care; and (2) in warning the Railway Company of the necessity of being very prompt and careful in the discharge of its duties, by showing that complaints against their mismanagement can reach Government through the medium of Native newspapers also. He then goes on to review the correspondence above referred to, and to examine the nature of the inquiries made. The following points strike him as worthy of consideration, which he commends to the favourable consideration of the Government:—

(a) The injudiciousness of conducting the inquiries through the very officers who were concerned in the charge. In the writer's opinion, if these inquiries were made through the District Officers, the truth would be found out.

(b) It is most likely that the Railway Company has confined its inquiries solely to passengers of the first and second classes, and has left the third-class passengers, of whom the correspondent, who is the authority for the statement, was one out of the question. Considering that the correspondent is a highly trustworthy man, the writer has no hesitation in asserting that, if inquiries be made from the third-

class passengers through the district authorities or Commissioners, the statement will appear to be too well founded.

(c) The Traffic Manager in his letter writes,—“The statement made by the *Koh-i-Núr* as to the passengers having been kept locked up the whole of the time is incorrect,” which means that the passengers were not kept locked up *all* the time the train was detained at Akarah, *i.e.*, from the time it stopped till it again started from the station, or 4 P. M. on the next day; whereas in the *Koh-i-Núr* it was stated that the passengers were kept locked up the *whole night*, which is a different thing altogether.

A correspondent of the *Kavi Vachan Sudhá*, of the same date, remarks on the inconvenience to which railway passengers are put in obtaining tickets in lieu of a currency note, in consequence of the rule according to which a currency note of one circle cannot be a legal tender in another when tendered in payment of a debt less than the value of the note, it being at the option of the payee to receive a note in excess of the sum due to him and give change; and he is of opinion that Government ought to amend the order.

(EDUCATIONAL.)

The *Panjábí Akhbár*, of the 3rd August, has a communicated article on the dearness of the vernacular books published in the Government Press at Lahore, and taught in the schools of the Punjab Educational Department. The writer, while confessing that the paper of the books is superior in quality, fails to see why those published in private presses, which are procurable at considerably cheaper prices, so much so that a book sold at the Government Press for a rupee can be got elsewhere for six annas, might not do just as well for the use of the schools. By way of example, it is mentioned that the *Zubdat-ul-Hisab*, Part I., which contains the first four rules, &c., of arithmetic, and is taught in the 1st and 2nd classes of rudimentary schools, is sold at 7½ annas per copy, which is a very high price for an elementary book of the kind. To have

to pay such high prices for books for the primary education of their sons is felt very hard by the parents of the pupils, and the more so, because boys do not make full use of their books as they are apt to tear them, so that the same book has to be purchased three or four times. This, no doubt, is the cause of increasing the sale of Government books, but at the same time is injurious to the spread of learning by discouraging a taste for it.

For the above reasons the writer suggests that the price of the books should be lessened, or, if this be not done, the prohibition against the publication of school books by private presses should be cancelled, and a general permission given to them to print and sell any of the books they like, and it should be left to the option of the boys to purchase books from any press whatever. For a similar complaint see pp. 443-4 of the *Selections* for the week ending 16th November, 1870.

The *Lauh-i-Mahjúz*, of the 9th August, regrets that though a large sum of money has been spent till now both by the people and the Government in the furtherance of female education, no good results have followed. The reason is said to be that many men have made it a means of earning their livelihood to collect a few girls of the poor people of their mohullas at their houses, by offering them paltry temptations, under the pretence of teaching them to read and write, especially on the day when the visit of an educational officer is expected. Beyond this nothing is done. In the writer's opinion, unless efficient measures such as the following are adopted, there can be no hope that female education will prosper :—

(a) Female schools should be opened at the houses of the nobility in each city and town, and proper arrangements made for inviting the pupils to the schools daily and sending them back to their houses.

(b) Normal schools should be opened in all large cities for preparing a class of able mistresses.

(c) Care should be taken that the management of the schools is placed in the hands of men who have established a character for piety, honesty, and good behaviour.

The *Lawrence Gazette*, of the same date, concurs with the *Allygurh Institute Gazette* in the opinion (*vide* page 424 of the *Selections* for the week preceding) that the proposed Mahomedan Anglo-Oriental College should be located at Allygurh: (1) because of Syud Ahmed Khan, the prime mover of the proposal, having a special connection with that city; and (2) because of its being the seat of the Scientific Society, which will render much aid and assistance to the College; but at the same time suggests that branch schools should be opened in connection with the College in a few of the principal cities, and the Mahomedan schools now existing in them amalgamated with them.

The *Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Panjáb*, of the same date, and the *Panjábí Akhbár* of the 10th August, in reviewing the same question, consider Delhi to be the most appropriate place in whole India for the site of the college—(1) because of its being the old seat of learning and the capital of the Musalman emperors; (2) because the Musalmans of the Punjab Frontier, Peshawur, Cabul, Candahar, and the like places, who are especially fond of Persian and Arabic, and study those languages for their own sake, will find no difficulty in coming up there; and (3) because of its proximity to Central India.

In consequence of these and many other advantages which Delhi possesses above all other cities, the editor gives a decided preference to it, and has strong hopes that his suggestion will meet with general approval.

The *Agra Akhbár*, of the 10th August, prefers Agra for the site of the college for the following reasons:—

(a) Because of its being a great and famous city, and the capital of the Mogul sovereigns, and where, therefore, the Musalmans of all cities will willingly send their sons to receive education.

(b) Because of its being a central city in Northern India, and, consequently, best fitted for spreading the light of knowledge equally in all places.

(c) Because of its proximity to the Native States, and other peculiar advantages it enjoys, and for which it was that it was preferred for the site of the Central Exhibition, and the grand durbars of the Viceroy have been held there from time to time.

○ Next to Agra the writer would choose Delhi; but as the latter city is situated at a great distance from Lucknow, he would prefer Agra to it. It is added, that Allahabad and Lahore would also appear to be suitable places for the locality of the College, on account of their being the seats of Government, but as in these cities there is already a University College, a second College is not needed.

The following Vernacular newspapers have been received up to 17th August, 1872 :—

No.	NAME OF NEWSPAPER.	LANGUAGE.	LOCALITY.	WHEN PUBLISHED.	DATE.	DATE OF RECEIPT.
1	Saunders' Gazette,	Urdu,	Shahjehanpore,	Weekly,	1872.	1872.
2	Núr-ul-Absár,	Ditto,	Allahabad,	Bi-monthly,	July, 29th	August, 10th
3	Akbbár-i-Alam,	Ditto,	Meerut,	Weekly,	August, 1st	3rd
4	Mangal Sámáchar,	Urdu-Hindi,	Baiswan,	Monthly,	" 1st	5th
5	Naiyir-i-Akbar,	Urdu,	Bijnour,	Weekly,	" 1st	10th
6	Roznámcha (a new paper),	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	" 1st	12th
7	Dhaulpore Gazette,	Ditto,	Dhaulpore,	Weekly,	" 1st	13th
8	Akbbár-i-Anjuman-i-Panjáb,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 2nd	13th
9	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	" 2nd	9th
10	Kavi Vachan Sudhá,	Hindi,	Benares,	Bi-monthly,	" 3rd	13th
11	Koh-i-Núr,	Urdu,	Lahore,	Weekly,	" 3rd	5th
12	Akbbár-i-Anjuman-i-Hind,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Ditto,	" 3rd	6th
13	Panjábí Akbbár,	Ditto,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 3rd	6th
14	Rohilkhund Akbbár,	Ditto,	Moradabad,	Bi-weekly,	" 3rd	8th
15	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Daily,	" 3rd	10th
16	Majm-ul-Bahrain,	Ditto,	Loodhiana,	Weekly,	" 3rd	13th
17	Gwalior Gazette,	Urdu-Hindi,	Gwalior,	Ditto,	" 4th	10th
18	Dabdaba-i-Sikandarí,	Urdu,	Rampore,	Ditto,	" 4th	13th
19	Kárnámah,	Ditto,	Lucknow,	Ditto,	" 5th	10th
20	Roznámcha,	Ditto,	Ditto,	Daily,	" 5th	10th
21	Sádiq-ul-Akbbár,	Ditto,	Bhawulpore,	Weekly,	" 5th	13th
22	Hindi Márwár Gazette,	Hindi,	Jodhpore,	Ditto,	" 5th	13th
23	Urdu ditto,	Urdu,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 5th	14th
24	Pattiala Akbbár,	Ditto,	Pattiala,	Ditto,	" 5th	14th
25	Saunders' Gazette,	Ditto,	Shahjehanpore,	Ditto,	" 5th	15th
26	Shola-i-Túr,	Ditto,	Cawnpore,	Ditto,	" 6th	16th
27	Matla-i-Núr,	Urdu,	Ditto,	Ditto,	" 6th	10th
28	Naf'-ul-Azém,	Arabic,	Lahore,	Ditto,	" 6th	10th
29	Tahzib-ul-Akhláq,	Urdu,	Allygurh,	Not fixed,	" 6th	12th

30	Rohilkhund Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad, ...	Bi-weekly,	...	7th	"	12th
31	Akhbár-i-Am, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Lahore, ...	Weekly,	...	7th	"	12th
32	Khair Khwáh-i-Panjáb, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Gujranwalla, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	12th
33	Jalwa-i-Túr, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	12th
34	Benares Akhbár, ...	...	Hindi,	...	Benares, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	12th
35	Akhbár-i-Alam, ...	...	Urdu,	...	Meerut, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	13th
36	Dhaultpore Gazette, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Dhaultpore, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	14th
37	Urdu Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	15th
38	Vidyá Vilás, ...	...	Urdu-Dogrit, ...	...	Jumnao, ...	Ditto,	...	8th	"	16th
39	Mukhbir-i-Sádiq, ...	...	Urdu,	...	Lucknow, ...	Ditto,	...	9th	"	12th
40	Oudh Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto, ...	Bi-weekly,	...	9th	"	12th
41	Lawrence Gazette, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut, ...	Weekly,	...	9th	"	12th
42	Shams-ul-Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow, ...	Bi-monthly,	...	9th	"	12th
43	Allygurh Institute Gazette, ...	...	Urdu-English,	...	Allygurh, ...	Weekly,	...	9th	"	13th
44	Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Panjáb, ...	...	Urdu,	...	Lahore, ...	Ditto,	...	9th	"	15th
45	Rajputana Social Science Congress Gazette.	...	Ditto,	...	Jeypore, ...	Ditto,	...	9th	"	16th
46	Lauh-i-Mahfúz, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad, ...	Ditto,	...	9th	"	17th
47	Núr-ul-Anwár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore, ...	Ditto,	...	10th	"	12th
48	Meerut Gazette, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut, ...	Ditto,	...	10th	"	13th
49	Akhbár-i-Anjuman-i-Hind, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Lucknow, ...	Ditto,	...	10th	"	13th
50	Urdu Delhi Gazette, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Agra, ...	Ditto,	...	10th	"	13th
51	Agra Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Ditto, ...	Tri-monthly,	...	10th	"	14th
52	Rohilkhund Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Moradabad, ...	Bi-weekly,	...	10th	"	14th
53	Pá-i-ka-Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Lahore, ...	Weekly,	...	10th	"	14th
54	Akmal-ul-Akhbár, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Delhi, ...	Ditto,	...	11th	"	16th
55	Majma-ul-Bahrain, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Ludhiana, ...	Ditto,	...	11th	"	17th
56	Muir Gazette, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Meerut, ...	Ditto,	...	12th	"	15th
57	Kárnámah, ...	...	Urdu,	...	Lucknow, ...	Ditto,	...	12th	"	17th
58	Shola-i-Túr, ...	...	Ditto,	...	Cawnpore, ...	Ditto,	...	13th	"	17th
59	Benares Akhbár, ...	...	Hindi,	...	Benares, ...	Ditto,	...	15th	"	17th
60	Supplement to Lawrence Gazette,	Urdu,	...	Meerut, ...	Ditto,	...	2nd week,	"	12th

ALLAHABAD:

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The 24th August, 1872.

SOHAN LAL,

Offg. Govt. Reporter on the Vernacular Press of Upper India.

